

may, had discarded his cigarette. The baron wore a gray frock coat, and was drawing comfort and inspiration from a black cigar. They were greeted on the porch by a few newspaper men, to whom they bowed graciously. The baron seated himself by Witte's side. Nabokov, with a black portfolio in his hands, continued the answer of the czar's government to the Mikado's peace terms, ascended, in front, by the chauffeur. The machine moved off. Just at that moment the black automobile containing the Japanese envoys and M. Sato dashed by on their side of the road.

The countenances of the Japanese envoys indicated deep concern as they entered a huge, black touring car in front of the hotel shortly after 9 o'clock. Baron Komura, in black derby hat and black frock coat, and M. Takahira, in gray, looked neither to the right nor to the left as they passed through the hotel lobby and between the small columns of curious sightseers. There was not the customary situation as they steamed away, with Mr. Sato, their spokesman, in the front seat.

Belief Strong that Peace Will Prevail

HOTEL WENTWORTH, NEW CASTLE, N. H., Aug. 12.—Today, while the czar and all Russia are celebrating the first anniversary of the birth of an heir to the throne of the Romanoffs, and with the nation still fresh from the promised realization of the dream of a national assembly, the Russian plenipotentiaries here will present to Mr. Komura and his colleague their answer to the conditions of the peace terms proposed. It is known definitely that this answer is not categorical, either affirmatively or negatively. It is in the form of a counter proposition, and will contain nothing which in itself will cause any rupture in the negotiations. The news that the Russian reply would be forthcoming so soon came as a general surprise. The first view taken of this was altogether optimistic. With the knowledge that Mr. Witte had forwarded the Japanese demands to the czar it was thought that the Russian decision could only indicate an uncompromising attitude on the part of the St. Petersburg government, and yesterday, and even early today, members of the Russian suite had said that the longer the delay the better the prospects for peace.

More Hopeful View.

Now a more hopeful view prevails. It is said semi-officially that Mr. Witte has drawn up his answer without waiting for further instructions from St. Petersburg and without the delays incidental to cabling and the holding of a special session of the czar's ministers. This view is supported still further by the nature of the answer to be given, for when Witte left St. Petersburg it is certain he already had a perfectly clear idea of the proposition he was to offer on his side, and his work since yesterday has been simply to qualify it in the light of what he has learned from the Japanese as to their demands. Neither is there any reason to fear an immediate rupture from the side of the Japanese. In presenting her conditions, Japan did not say they admitted of no discussion. On the contrary, when proposed by Mr. Komura that each clause in his proposed terms should be discussed separately, he conveyed a distinct intimation that he was not the bearer of a "take or leave" ultimatum, but was prepared to hold each and every point open for argument.

Whether argument will move him much is a question which, in view of the firm and consistent stand he took in the negotiations that preceded the war, does not admit of any optimistic answer, but at least it may be said that no attempt is likely to be made to bully Russia into an immediate and unqualified acceptance of the terms.

No Actual Basis Yet.

On the other hand, little hope is entertained that any actual basis of negotiations has already been reached. In effect, though not in form, the Russian reply is expected to be distinctly negative. The exact nature of the proposals the Japanese make is still unknown to anyone but those who have a rumor to the effect that they were to be transmitted to Mr. Komura for his informal consideration is denied by both parties; but it is too much to hope that they approach very closely those set forward by the Japanese.

After the meeting, which is to be held in the navy yard today, it will rest with the representatives of the Japanese Emperor to say how far they are willing to negotiate, or, in other words, to define more clearly than has yet been done the irreducible minimum. The best hope is that by proposal and counter proposal the gap that gradually separates the two parties gradually may be bridged.

It is believed here that the necessity of "reimbursing" Japan for the cost of the war will not meet with such bitter opposition from the Russians as had been looked for. The Japanese are willing to place part of the Manchurian railway and Sakhalin in the hands of the Japanese as a condition to accept it as a fact, that Japan demands only the southern part of the Manchurian railway and will leave the main line to Vladivostok in Russian hands is a piece of moderation which the Russians are heartily ready to accept. It is not to be a bone of contention in the conference. Russia hardly would consent to give Vladivostok without a fight, and with this dangerous feature no longer threatening the air becomes considerably clearer.

Counting the Cost.

One point should be added. The report that since receiving the Japanese terms the Russian representatives had been in close communication with banking houses in Paris and Amsterdam, as well as with the Rothschilds in London, was denied officially and emphatically. On the other hand, it also was said that Witte's principal adviser in the drafting of his answer has been M. Pokotiloff, who as director of the Russian-Chinese Bank, is the chief financial adviser of the Russian plenipotentiary. The inference is that Witte, while anxious to avoid the impression that he is willing forthwith to accept the principle of "reimbursement," is none the less actively engaged in counting the cost.

As has been the case ever since the conference met, the Russians and their sympathizers are noticeably less hopeful of the situation than are the Japanese. Mr. Witte was not seen in public till about 4 o'clock yesterday, and when he went out for a ride in an automobile with Baron Rosen. Both men looked tired and anxious, and it was impossible to study their expression and imagine they felt themselves to be on the eve of a satisfactory conclusion of their troubles and difficulties.

Mr. Witte always has sought to avoid notice, but hitherto he never has failed to acknowledge the mild stir that always greets his appearance. Yesterday, as he drove past the plaza, he was for a moment absent-mindedly for a moment on the hundred-odd men and women who had been watching for him, but he instantly turned his head the other way, as though too discouraged to go through the ordeal of cheerful civility.

Rosen Downcast.

The inveterate sadness that always rests on the face of Baron Rosen also seemed to be deeper than usual, and

he, too, avoided the necessity of returning salutations. The envoys returned from their drive shortly before 6. They went at once to their apartments, where they dined with all the members of their suite and were not seen again during the evening.

The higher officials of the Japanese delegation were equally invisible, but several of the less important members were observed about the hotel veranda and corridors in the afternoon, and seemed to be in the best of spirits. Mr. Komura came to the hotel alone, and almost had finished his meal before he was joined at the table by one of his secretaries.

It would be as easy to read meaning in a stone as to form any definite opinion from his face. He came and went, small, unassuming, almost self-effacing, with nothing in expression or manner to suggest that the destiny of a nation rested even remotely in his hands. He dispatched a lengthy cipher cablegram to Tokyo after he had received word from Mr. Witte that he would be glad to renew the conference in the morning, but this was the first sign of active communication with the Japanese government that has been shown since yesterday's meeting adjourned.

Keeping Wires Hot.

The Russians, on the other hand, have kept the wires hot. Both parties are receiving enormous masses of mail, and the postoffice officials at Portsmouth have found it necessary to put on two special carriers for the exclusive handling of it. The day here has been incessantly hot and close, with a perfect plague of mosquitoes to add to the discomfort.

Members of both suites have allowed themselves to express in no uncertain terms the wish that the seat of the conference might be transferred to some more comfortable and convenient place, for, while the hotel management has graciously met all their wants, neither the hotel itself nor Portsmouth offers the facilities that would be available in or near a larger town.

The distance from the navy yard is beginning to be regarded as an inconvenience every day. Even by automobile the drive is hot and dusty, while by coach it is slow and tedious. By way of improving matters in this respect the Russians asked yesterday that the Dolphin be brought up to the navy yard and that more launches be placed at their disposal. This was done today, six midshipmen from Annapolis having been sent to take charge of the launches.

Japanese Prepared to Celebrate Peace Soon

LONDON, Aug. 12.—The correspondent of the Exchange Telegraph Company, at St. Petersburg, wires that dispatches from the front say that Field Marshal Oyama and Prince Kanin, the Japanese plenipotentiaries, have been met by American, English, and French military attaches, with the Japanese army, have agreed to make preparations in anticipation of the ceremonies which will follow the signing of the peace.

The Japanese have repaired the railway to the north of Chantufu in order to facilitate the expected meeting between Field Marshal Oyama and General Linvitch, the Russian commander-in-chief.

POSSIBLE TAGGART RECONCILIATION

(Continued from First Page.)

made by her husband. The court room was jammed. It took a dozen policemen to drive back the disappointed throng that stormed the doors. Interest in the growing story of the wife and her husband, who had been separated for so long, was so great that admission hereafter is to be to properly accredited persons only.

Taggart Keeps Cool.

Major Taggart was wonderfully cool, and he came unscathed through repeated vigorous assaults by the throng of reporters. He took up the thread of his story where he had dropped it Thursday.

Referring to the drinking scene in Matanzas, where he found his wife with another man, he said that after he had taken his wife home he said one of their daughters, who had been with her husband, this woman left next day. The major told his wife that Mrs. Taggart made no comment.

Attacks General Miner.

The witness said that although General Miner was his superior officer in Fort Leavenworth he was not on "speaking terms" with him. He said he attended a dinner party in Miner's, and that his wife the next day told Mrs. Berry the general had asked to come and see her one day when the major was away.

"I asked her about the truth of this story," said the witness, "and she admitted to me that the old fellow was drunk. I threatened to take a gun and blow his brains out. The major said he saw the wife and Miner walking together. Once when he saw them in the street he said Miner 'acted frivolous,' and the wife and Miner were certainly deserving to be killed."

One day, returning from field practice, he saw the wife and Miner walking together. He went to get his gloves and accidentally heard his wife telephoning "General Miner not to come, as I was home, and we were to go down to the beach."

Following this Major Taggart told of visits by Lieutenant Fortesque, the nephew of Edward Fortesque, who he once ordered him out of the house. It was at a party that broke up at daylight that he saw Fortesque and his wife. The witness said that the two drank highballs together and danced frequently.

Hears Fortesque on Phone.

Once Taggart heard the telephone bell ring, and his wife, answering it, said she would be over soon. The major went out with his wife, and they walked in the night of the Fortesque residence, where they saw Fortesque, who came over to them. Taggart objected to his wife going into the house, but she went.

A few days later the lieutenant came to the Taggart home, and Mrs. Taggart requested her husband to come down stairs. He declined, and finally the man, with her wifely hand, took her "most sacred oath" that if he came down stairs that time he would have nothing more to do with Fortesque.

Taggart came down, his wife dried her tears, powdered her face, and was merry still again. But the following day, when he heard the telephone, Taggart swore he heard Fortesque's voice at the other end.

AUCTION SALES.

VIRGINIA AND MARYLAND HORSES
100 HORSES! 100 HORSES!
Will Be Sold at the
ARLINGTON HORSE CO. STABLES,
3287 and 3289 M St. N. W.,
Washington, D. C.,
On MONDAY, Aug. 14, 1905, at 10 a. m.

Among this lot can be found carriage horses and heavy draft horses. Also some horses and wagons will be sold by the District marshal. This will be a golden chance for the public to get just what they are looking for, and at their own price.

Aug. 12-21 ARLINGTON HORSE CO.



GUARDSMEN WERE GLADLY WELCOME

All Cheered When "Johnny Came Marching Home."

ENCAMPMENT A SUCCESS

Citizen-Soldiers Profited by Instructions and Experiences Received on Bolivar Heights.

After ten strenuous, yet beneficial, days on Bolivar Heights, W. Va., the fifteen hundred or more members of the District militia returned to Washington yesterday afternoon, where they were dismissed after review and dress parade on the White Lot. Ten thousand or more mothers, wives, sweethearts, brothers, sisters, and friends assembled around the ellipse to witness the drill.

Camp Ordway passed into history at 1 o'clock yesterday afternoon, by which time all the tents had been rolled up and the soldiers were being loaded onto the cars.

The citizens, who had been cheering the soldiers, were now being cheered by the soldiers, who had been cheering the citizens.

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showing. The Ambulance Corps was

headed by Lieut. Walter Pales, the officer who was so painfully burned about the head, face, and neck, while superintending some fumigating work near the general hospital on Monday last.

Captain Fox's battery of artillery never looked better. The men in it had to work hard after they reached Washington yesterday afternoon, because most of the guns had to be put together again, having been taken apart in order to permit of their being shipped to the city. The horses also had to be hitched to the harness. This work was done in a remarkably short time.

March to the Army.

After the review, the soldiers marched past the Sherman statue and proceeded down Pennsylvania avenue to the Center Market Armory, where they were dismissed by their company commanders.

A large crowd had assembled at the entrance of the place, and as each soldier marched out he was met by some young man or a pretty girl, who swung on to his arm and welcomed him home.

This most successful encampment of the District militia was brought to a close. The efficiency of the citizen-soldiers to have conducted such a campaign it was since its organization.

The soldiers were given a brief review of the District militia, and will make the next encampment in two weeks or sixteen days' duration. In speaking of this phase of the affair, General Harries said today:

"The soldiers learn many things in camp during ten days. All these things would be of service to them in actual warfare. It is not a matter of a few days, but of a few months."

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